

## **AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (Large Entity)**

Applicant(s): Barringer et al.

Docket No.

P0U920010111US1

Serial No.  
09/942306

Filing Date  
08/29/2001

Examiner  
Truc T. Nguyen

Group Art Unit  
2833

Invention: **PLUGGABLE PLANAR BOARD**

JUN 04 2003

TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.

**CLAIMS AS AMENDED**

|   | CLAIMS REMAINING<br>AFTER AMENDMENT | HIGHEST #<br>PREV. PAID FOR | NUMBER EXTRA<br>CLAIMS PRESENT | RATE      | ADDITIONAL<br>FEE |
|---|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| TOTAL CLAIMS                                    | 9 -                                 | 20 =                        | 0                              | x \$18.00 | \$0.00            |
| INDEP. CLAIMS                                   | 1 -                                 | 3 =                         | 0                              | x \$84.00 | \$0.00            |
| Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) | <input type="checkbox"/>            |                             |                                |           | \$0.00            |
| TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT         |                                     |                             |                                |           | \$0.00            |

- No additional fee is required for amendment.

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Zanease & Custer  
Signature

Dated: 2003/06/02

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CC:

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IN THE U.S. PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Barringer et al. : GROUP ART UNIT 2833 / Conf. No. 6669  
Serial No. 09/942306 : Examiner Truc T. Nguyen  
Filed: 08/29/2001 : May 30, 2003  
5 Title: Pluggable Planar Board : Lawrence D. Cutter  
: Intellectual Property Law  
: 2455 South Road, P386  
: Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

AMENDMENT

10 Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

15 In response to the Office Action dated March 6, 2003, please  
amend the above-identified application as follows: applicants'  
introductory comments begin on page 2 of this submission.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of  
claims which begin on page 3 of the present submission.  
Applicants' remarks and arguments begin on page 5 of this  
20 submission.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.3(a)

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25 Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on  
June 2, 2003.

*Susan L. Phelps*  
Susan L. Phelps

*6-2-2003*

Date of Signature

Introductory Comments

At present applicants' previously submitted claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the newly cited patent to Lajara et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,362,968 issued March 5, 2002) in view of the U.S. patent to Jackson et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,452,809 issued September 17, 2002). In light of the amendments made herein and the arguments presented below, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of applicants' claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based upon the two cited patents cannot 10 be sustained. Accordingly, it is therefore respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

It is noted that the present rejection is a non-final rejection; as a result, the present amendment is being made as of right. It is noted that the present response follows applicants' 15 submission of a Notice of Appeal and an Appeal Brief with respect to claims earlier rejected under § 103 and § 112. Since the Examiner has not repeated the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, it is applicants' assumption that this rejection has been withdrawn. Nevertheless, it is noted that certain changes have 20 been made in applicants' claims in an attempt to more fully address some of the concerns that the Examiner raised during several telephonic interviews with the applicants' attorney. In this regard, applicants' attorney wishes to express his thanks and gratitude to the Examiner for frank and open discussions with 25 respect to claim patentability in spite of our inability to reach an agreement with respect to claim language at that time. The Examiner's time, effort, and thoughts on the matter, as communicated to the applicants' attorney, have been graciously received and are appreciated. Conversations with the Examiner 30 have led the applicants to revise the currently submitted claims in a manner which more clearly points out and describes the

invention and its various embodiments. However, it is noted that the amendments being made herein are not in anyway intended to negatively impact the scope of the claims prior to amendment. The present claim amendments are being made not in response to 5 the newly cited art, or in response to any cited art for that matter, but rather as a result of the conversations had with the Examiner with respect to clarity. As a result of these conversations and the present amendments, applicants' claims should be more readable, easier to understand, and/or more 10 succinct. It is also noted that the present response does not require the payment of any additional fees.